Tuesday, March 26, 1907.

VID SPENCER, LTD.

celled

nishings Dept

aning Before
aster

USLIN

ble tasseled edge, 6-4
ent designs, all of the
, per yard 50c
ble edged madras, 6-4
per yard 60c
le edged madras, 8-4
per yard 65c
lly adapted for libraries,
s and front door drapery.
Net, vandyke edge, over-
nal floral pattern, 6-4
..... 75c
ras, green and pink and
and pink, large conven-
ign, specially choice, 6-4
..... 85c

H COVERS
ch Covers, in assorted
..... $1.50

for Easter

QUETAIRE GLOVES,
..... $1.00
ite and cream, heavy
at $1.50
TAIRE, lisle silk finish,
es, at, each $1.25
OUSQUETAIRE, 20-
at, each 75c
OUSQUETAIRE, white
, each $1.25
VES, in great variety,
..... 15c
LACE KID GLOVES,
..... $3.00
LACE KID GLOVES,
..... $2.00
AND MODE GLACE
B. L., per pair ... $2.75
ACK GLACE KID
, per pair $3.50
in white and mode, 16
..... $2.50
OVES, very special line
..... $1.75
VES, Glace and Suede,
all the leading shades,
r $1.50
or Easter, New Gloves
black, white, glace, guar-
length, each $3.50

Novels

ks are 75c each copy,
in cloth

by Horton; The Day
liams; The Fighting
rs; The Jungle, by Sin-
Empire, by Parry; The
clair; Romance Island,
Grier, by Tracy; Judith,
ghtning Conductor, by
ering Smith, by Spear-
y Price Brown; Blind-
The Tides of Barnegat,
Overman, by Mickel-
hildren, by G. Bonner;
llon; Doc Gordon, by
Greyhound, by Tilton;
Cheney; Bob and the
s; Half a Rogue, by
of Mirth, by Wharton;
nter; The Lady Evelyn,
Cattle Baron's Daugh-
The Late Tenant, by
Spike, by Warman; The
arr; A Knight of the
n Fox, Jr.; The Chief
Green; The Man of the
The Princess Passes,
cy of the Stars, by
..... 75c
n, by Phillips.... $1.25
rts, by Burton Harri-
..... 85c
rd $1.25
evenson $1.25
Helen Ritchie, by Le-
..... $1.25
ason $1.25
Doyle (Paper) 75c
cheon (Paper) 75c
berly (Paper) 75c
m 5c to 50c
'S, white and gold.. 35c
ather $1.50
ather $2.25
ather $1.75

on all matters relating
he home. For it is an
are unsurpassed in effi-
nomy whether in

Housepainting
orating
ay, and secure an esti-
e of Cost.

The Semi-Weekly Colonist.

VOL XLVIII. NO. 130. VICTORIA, B. C., FRIDAY, MARCH 29, 1907. FORTY-EIGHTH YEAR

PROVINCIAL LAND RESERVE IN AID OF UNIVERSITY

Bill Submitted to House for Purpose of Furthering Higher Education in British Columbia—Two Million Acres to be Set Aside

"An Act to Aid the University of British Columbia by a Grant of Provincial Lands," is the title of a bill submitted to the provincial legislature by the minister of education at yesterday's session. It was put through its preliminary stages, read a first time and is slated for further consideration this afternoon. This measure was forecasted in the speech from the throne and is one of great importance to the province generally, especially from an educational standpoint. It must be of vital interest to those who have taken an active part, in recent years, in agitating for the establishment in British Columbia of an institution for higher education, thus rendering unnecessary the attendance of the youth of the province at any of the well known seats of learning in the eastern sections of the Dominion.

The bill provides that a grant, not exceeding two million acres, shall be set aside, the proceeds of the sale of which shall be devoted to the construction and the maintenance of an institution such as referred to. Another noteworthy point, is the fact that the selection of these lands is to be made within a period of three years. Section 6 of the enactment goes into the details in relation to the standard of the proposed institution, providing that there shall be a faculty of arts, a faculty of medicine, a faculty of law and a faculty of applied science.

Although it has been stated that British Columbia has not yet reached the stage in its development industrially, or from the standpoint of the extent of its population, to warrant the introduction of a seat of learning such as is outlined, it is believed by local educationists that the action of the provincial government cannot but result in bringing the matter to a focus at an early date. The agitation for higher education, which has been more or less prevalent during the past few years, is now, they say, likely to assume some definite shape. It will, they contend, so stimulate the movement that something will be done within a comparatively short period to bring about the establishment of the British Columbia university which is referred to in the bill and which, there is little doubt, will receive the endorsation of the house in the course of the next few days.

The measure as it stands is perfectly clear. Its full context follows:

1. This act may be cited as the "University of British Columbia Aid Act, 1907."

2. It shall be lawful for the lieutenant governor in council to grant to the University of British Columbia lands in the province of British Columbia, not exceeding two million acres, in aid of higher education in this province.

3. The said grant of land shall not include any lands held by grant, lease, agreement for sale, pre-emption, or other alienation by the crown, nor shall it include Indian reserves or settlements nor military or naval reserves, nor lakes or lands in which any person other than the crown shall have a vested interest.

4. The lieutenant governor in council may reserve from preemption, sale or other disposition any lands of the province for the purpose of said grant, other than lands mentioned in section 3 hereof.

5. The land to be granted pursuant to this act shall be selected from the lands of the province, by the lieutenant governor in council within three years from the date of the passing of this act.

6. All revenues derived from said lands, or from the sale or other disposition thereof by the said university, shall be devoted to the maintenance by said university of the following faculties:

(a.) A faculty of arts and science, which shall embrace all branches of a liberal education necessary for the degrees of bachelor of arts and master of arts, and such other degrees as may be determined by the said university.

(b.) A faculty of medicine, which shall embrace all branches of medical and surgical training necessary for the degrees of bachelor of medicine, doctor of medicine, master of surgery, and such other degrees as may be determined by the said university.

(c.) A faculty of law, which shall embrace all branches of the knowledge and practice of law necessary for the degree of bachelor of laws, and such other degrees as may be determined by the said university.

(d.) A faculty of applied science, including manual training and engineering, leading to the degree of bachelor of applied science, and such other degrees or diplomas as may be determined by the said university.

7. No part of said revenue shall be devoted to any purpose which is not strictly secular and non-sectarian.

8. This act shall come into force on proclamation by the lieutenant governor in council.

PREMIER'S ATTENDANCE AT THE CONFERENCE

Mr. Borden's Offer—Provincial Subsidies Discussed in House of Commons

Ottawa, March 25.—The afternoon sitting of the house today was taken up with the question of the representation of Canada at the forthcoming colonial conference. Replying to the leader of the opposition, Sir Wilfrid said he certainly hoped to go to England, but within the past few days certain things had transpired which might prevent him from crossing the Atlantic.

Thereupon Mr. Borden moved the adjournment of the house to discuss the question. He spoke briefly but emphatically, pointing out how essential it was that the Dominion, the leading colony of the empire, should be represented at the gathering. If it were the state of public business that would detain the first minister in Canada, then he could assure the Right Hon. gentleman that he could count upon the assistance of the opposition in every legitimate way to further his departure. If it was not possible to dispose of the business of the house before Sir Wilfrid left then the Conservative party would be willing that parliament should adjourn from next Wednesday for a sufficient period to enable the prime minister to be present at the conference.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier's reply was listened to with great interest. He insisted upon the absolute necessity of being accompanied to England by some of his colleagues, especially those who had the preparation of the tariff. He hinted that he might delay his departure for a couple of weeks, as the early days of the conference would not be particularly important, and it would take some time to organize. He accepted Mr. Borden's offer of assistance to facilitate his departure, but urged him at the same time to go a little further and facilitate the departure of his colleagues.

Mr. Foster pointed out that the government had nearly completed its sessional programme, and whatever measures were still under consideration, as for instance the land bill, might be left over until next session. If that measure were withdrawn not many Liberals would shed tears over it. Canada was committed to the conference, and the first minister should be there.

Among others who spoke were Messrs. Bourassa, Fielding, Sproule and Hughes. The member for Labelle thought there was no necessity for the prime minister to go to the conference. Closing the discussion, Mr. Borden said he would not think that Sir Wilfrid Laurier should take Mr. Bourassa with him to carry his carpet bag.

Incidentally referred to an alleged arrangement mooted in the press between the opposition and the government with regard to Mr. Bourassa's course tomorrow. The opposition leader was most emphatic in his declaration that any suggestion of arrangements on his part was unjustifiable and unwarrantable.

The evening sitting was occupied by a discussion on provincial subsidies, and the discussion was marked by a cold speech from Mr. Foster, who emphatically declared that British Columbia's claim for special consideration had not been fairly dealt with. An amendment by Lefurgey to grant P. E. Island an additional annual subsidy of $128,000 was defeated by 86 to 34.

Before the lumber committee today, L. A. Lewis, of New Westminster, said the agitation which had taken place some years ago in favor of imposing a duty of $2 a thousand on American lumber had failed, and who got the benefit? Not the consumer, but the retailer, purely and simply. If the consumer had got the benefit then the manufacturer would have kicked. Mr. Lewis said he would recommend that where a combine of retailers existed, a commissioner should be appointed by the government to buy lumber for farmers and sell at a reasonable profit. J. S. Emerson, of Vancouver, said he operated a mill at Port Moody. His sawmill industry was the poorest business he had. He lucidly explained the conditions affecting the industry in the Pacific province and justified the existence of an association to maintain prices.

LOST VALUABLE VALISE

Winnipeg, March 27.—The senior partner of the Fisher-Hamilton Realty Company suffered a severe loss last night while returning from British Columbia, losing a valise in which he was carrying $75,000 in checks and securities.

COMPANY WOUND UP

Toronto, March 27.—A winding-up order was granted today in the affairs of the Stratford Cordage Company. The petitioner was the Traders Bank, which recovered judgment against the concern for $4445 but was unable to collect.

MEN ON ENGINE KILLED

St. Paul, March 27.—The Northern Pacific passenger train for Duluth which left St. Paul at 11 o'clock last night, was wrecked at Carlton, Minn., early today. The engine, mail and combination cars were derailed and the engineer and fireman were killed. Meagre reports received at Northern Pacific headquarters here do not indicate that any passengers were killed.

SCANDAL VENTILATION MOTION IS REJECTED

Three Liberal Members Voted With Conservatives in Its Support

LUMBERING VERSUS POLITICS

Sir Wilfrid Laurier and Ministers Fielding and Paterson to Attend Colonial Conference

Ottawa, March 27.—By a vote of 109 to 56 the Commons last night rejected the motion of Mr. Bourassa for the appointment of a special committee to investigate Mr. Fowler's "women, wine and graft" charges.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier resented the action of Mr. Bourassa in descending into the gutter to rake up indefinite charges. He said the proposed committee was of an inquisitional character.

Mr. Borden emphatically declared that he would facilitate any charge preferred, whether against members of the opposition or on the government side. As to Sir Wilfrid Laurier's suggested inquisition, what could equal the inquisitional proceedings of the insurance commission, which refused the right to Messrs. Foster and Fowler and others to cross-examine witnesses. While not agreeing with the text of the resolution, he declared amid the loud applause of his followers that he would vote for it.

Three Liberals voted in the minority, Bourassa, Lavergne and Sobitaille, and all the Conservative members except Foster and Fowler, whose names were mentioned in the resolution.

Lumber Inquiry

A. E. Watts, of Waitsburg, threw some live shots into the lumber committee today. He started out by charging that Mr. Lancaster put answers into the mouths of witnesses and the same went on record. It appeared that witnesses made false statements. Evidently Mr. Lancaster was trying to enhance his reputation in order to qualify for the attorney-generalship in the next cabinet. This statement evoked a good deal of laughter, in which Mr. Lancaster joined.

Chairman Greenway intimated to the witness that he had better confine himself to the subject matter of the enquiry and leave members of the committee alone. Mr. Watts thereupon proceeded to explain the difficulties of mill owners in British Columbia. In that province they could not and would not pay the starvation wages which prevailed in the east. In Ottawa men were paid $1.08 per day and boarded themselves, while for similar work in British Columbia $2.50 and $3 a day was paid, "and we feed our men with the finest kind of food and the delicacies of the season, better than many eastern hotels supply." (Laughter.) Should the time come when he could not afford to pay high wages he would close down his mill and go in for political business. He noted that there was a good chance for an honest and sober legislator who would join in the hunt after grafters. (Laughter.) There was serious talk amongst old and powerful men who favored secession of British Columbia from the Dominion, their opinion being that British Columbia would be better off as a crown colony, but personally he would sacrifice his own interest rather than help to undo the work of the grand old empire-builders.

W. B. Bashford, Roathern, independent lumber dealer, was examined before the lumber committee yesterday. He said that lumber was too dear. There were two reasons; one was on account of the lack of transportation facilities, and the other was that the mills were putting up the prices. He had no difficulty in getting lumber. He purchased from seventeen different mills, all of which belonged to the association. The line yards were the worst for putting up prices. His remedy was that the mills should not supply a dealer that was charging too much. He did not think that the farmer was paying too much for his lumber. J. Nell, of the Sturgeon Lake Lumber Co., Prince Albert, was next examined. He gave a list of prices. Lumber was about $4 higher than last year. There was also an increase in production.

Colonial Conference

An interesting discussion took place in the Commons today on the colonial conference. Sir Wilfrid Laurier definitely intimated that he would go. Mr. Borden criticized the government in a friendly way for not sending proposals, and asked information on several points. Sir Wilfrid Laurier said the chief point the Canadian delegates would bring up would be the trade issue, but on this question the views of the Canadian government had not changed since 1902. On the matters of defence, reciprocity within the empire and cattle embargo the government would adhere to its original attitude. The house will sit mornings next week. Prorogation is expected by the fifteenth, when Messrs. Fielding and Paterson will follow Sir Wilfrid Laurier.

Right Hon. James Bryce, British ambassador at Washington, arrived at one o'clock today. The train was over an hour late. He drove straight to Government House. This evening he took a seat on the floor of the House of Commons for a time, and was loudly cheered.

At the meeting of the public accounts committee today the sub-target gun was up again. Sir Frederick Borden was examined and said that he never had any dealings with Jewell, the promoter. It was true that he was served with a writ from Jewell upon his departure to England. He gave the writ to his private secretary, and never heard any more about it. His secretary gave it to a lawyer, and that was the last he ever heard of it.

SOUTH AFRICAN HEROES

Montreal Monument To Be Erected on May 24

Montreal, March 27.—May 24 has been set as the date of the unveiling of the Strathcona monument in Montreal. This monument is to commemorate the deeds of the Canadians who fell in battle in South Africa, and is being erected by popular subscription. A big military review has been arranged for the occasion. The Forty-eighth Highlanders and the Queen's Own of Toronto have made inquiries and are expected to attend. His Excellency the Governor-General has consented to be present at the ceremony. The monument is costing thirty thousand dollars.

CAT CARRIED SMALLPOX

Curious Development in Nova Scotia Epidemic

New Glasgow, N. S., March 27.—Smallpox in the form it has struck Pictou county just now does not seem to be a particularly violent attack, though it is loathsome enough; but it surely makes up in infectious properties what it lacks in fatality. A curious instance of catching the disease is related. The occupants of a house near Matheson's foundry are quarantined, suffering from smallpox. They also possessed a cat that was a pet of the fireman at the foundry. Since the outbreak of the disease the cat visited the foundry boiler-house and received its usual affectionate greeting from the fireman and, while purring a return greeting, handed the fireman a dose of the obnoxious disease. At any rate, he is now in turn suffering and quarantined at his home in Eureka. The unfortunate but unintentional feline is now in that happy hunting ground for cats.

FRENCH FORCES MOVE ON MOROCCO TERRITORY

Sultan Expected to Yield—Foreigners at Morocco City In Some Danger

Tangier, March 27.—The French armored cruiser Jeanne d'Arc and the cruiser Laande have arrived here from Toulon. The commander of the Jeanne d'Arc will hand a list of the French claims this afternoon to Mohammed El Torres, representative of the Sultan.

The situation at Morocco is becoming more serious, according to the reports received here. Hostile crowds are patrolling the streets, and Europeans dare not leave their houses without escort.

Paris, March 27.—A despatch received from General Llauteri, commander of the column of occupation of Algeria, at Algiers, this morning, announced that a squadron of Spahis had been ordered to make a forced march from Sidi Bel Abbes, Algeria, to Oudja. The Spahis cannot reach Oudja before March 30, but battery of artillery and a batallion of Zouaves have left Tlemsen, Algeria, for Lalla Marni, on the Moroccan frontier.

General Llauteri has arrived at Sidi Bel Abbes and has taken charge of the military operations.

Berlin, March 27.—The occupation of Oudja, Morocco, by French troops is regarded at the foreign office here as being a proper and right and inevitable step, if it be confined simply to punitive measures for the murder of a French citizen, and is without ulterior objects.

It is assumed here, officially, that France will fully observe her arrangements entered into at Algeciras.

The German attitude is one of alert observation. Any modification of that attitude will depend on the development of the French plans.

Paris, March 27.—The Sultan of Morocco is expected to yield promptly to all the claims formulated by the commander of the French armored cruiser Jeanne d'Arc, now at Tangier, as soon as he is convinced that the French attitude is inflexible, and that France has the unanimous support of the powers. No news has reached the foreign office relative to the occupation of Oudja by French troops.

CAUTION ON RAILWAYS

Toronto, March 27.—The railroads have issued orders to their engineers and conductors not to run beyond their regular time no matter how much they are behind. The circular adds: "Immediate dismissal will follow neglect on the part of any employee to observe this rule." The order has been issued because of the great danger of rails spreading through frost leaving the ground.

RICH GOLD ORE

Wabigoon, Ont., March 27.—A despatch from Goldrock announces that another strike of extraordinarily rich ore has been made at the famous Laurentian mine. The wealth of ore exposed equals, if not surpasses, the phenomenal discoveries already recorded. The strike was made 30 feet above the 200-foot level. Although the mine is a rich one, this is the first strike of enormous wealth made under the auspices of the new superintendent, Mr. Nickerson. Its values represent thousands of dollars to the ton. It appears to demonstrate that as depth is attained more wealth is gained.

A MONTREAL "JUNGLE."

Abattoir Men Said to Turn Dead Cattle Into Lard.

Montreal, March 27.—It is alleged that two of this city's abattoirs are turning dead cattle unfit for human consumption into lard. It appears that a quiet investigation has been going on, and that the matter will be taken up by the city council within the next few days. It is stated that these two abattoir companies are the largest in the city, and that they have made a practice of purchasing cattle which have died from natural causes and that these bodies have been rendered into lard.

BARBAROUS PRACTICES OF REVOLTING PEASANTS

Landlords Burned to Death and Children Hacked to Pieces

DESPERATE FIGHTS WITH TROOPS

Roumanian Government Takes Steps to Remove Some Grievances of the Populace

Bucharest, March 27.—Forty peasants were killed on March 25 in a hard fight with troops in the Mozazi district. The insurgents in that section cut to pieces and burned some of their victims. A stubborn encounter occurred yesterday at a point on the Giurgevo road about sixty miles from Bucharest, where 4,000 insurgents met a strong detachment of troops. The latter attacked the revolted peasants with cavalry as well as infantry, but the military commander ultimately was obliged to use artillery before he was able to force the peasants to retreat.

London, March 27.—A special despatch from Sofia, Bulgaria, says that according to some of the Roumanian refugees who have arrived on the Bulgarian side of the Danube, the insurgent peasantry has been guilty of the same ruthless cruelties which usually mark the feuds in the Balkans. Many of the landlord classes have been burned to death after their bodies and limbs had first been rolled in thick twists of hay or straw. Even children, the refugees add, have been hacked to death by the revolting peasants.

Bucharest, March 27.—The measures proposed by the government to meet the demands of the revolted peasantry and end the cruel war which is devastating Moldavia and Wallachia, were announced in today's issue of the Official Gazette in the shape of a proclamation issued in the name of King Carol. The proclamation appeals for the patriotic cooperation of the people to procure the establishment of tranquility, and agree to the immediate suppression of some of the heavier taxes, while therefor the farm lands will be cultivated by the state or leased to the peasants. Not one of the larger syndicates hitherto engaged in farming vast tracts of land will be allowed to hold more than 5,000 acres. The document also gives notice of the introduction of laws to ameliorate the conditions of the peasantry, facilitating the raising of money to pay rents; reforming the taxation of small holdings and revising the terms of the agricultural agreements, which at present practically enslave the peasantry. These reforms being the desire of the sovereign and the government, Roumanians are urged to give all possible assistance to the government, which, while scrupulously applying the lands and avoiding injustice will at the same time vigorously suppress all disorders and severely punish all who seek to profit by robbery.

The minister of the interior announced today that the situation in Moldavia had improved, but there is not much evidence in support of the statement in the reports of disorders coming in from numerous points. The workmen in the petroleum district are also in a state of excitement, but the authorities believe that the measures taken will prevent any disorders among them. Plenty of troops have been concentrated here to protect the capital, and reinforcements are speedily being distributed in the districts disturbed. The new cabinet minister propose to make a tour of the country and personally superintend the measures taken in order to allay the agitation.

C. P. R. MAIL CONTRACT COMES UP IN HOUSE

Premier Campbell-Bannerman Says New One Will be Made After Conference

London, March 27.—The House of Commons, by a large majority, today ratified the contract with the Canadian Pacific for the conveyance of mails between Liverpool and Hongkong.

Harold Cox, Liberal, and other members severely criticized the contract as a great waste of public money, each voyage costing $17,305. They declared that the result of the contract was simply to provide the American rivals of British merchants with easier access to the far eastern markets. It was also suggested that there was some underlying strategical reason justifying the payment of a heavy subsidy.

Mr. Runciman, parliamentary secretary of the treasury, and Premier Campbell-Bannerman, while admitting that it was not profitable, defended the contract as being a temporary arrangement pending the discussion of the matter by the colonial conference, after which a new contract would be made.

NOT TO MAKE WHISKEY

Winnipeg, March 27.—An erroneous impression has gained considerable publicity in eastern Canada, to the effect that the Canadian Distilleries, Limited, will make whiskey. This company was organized to manufacture alcohol as a commercial product from low-grade grains, not for distilling liquor, as represented by eastern clergymen in letters to the press.

BETTER TERMS QUESTION PRONOUNCED ON BY HOUSE

Resolution Proposed by Premier Carried on Party Vote—Socialist Members Withdraw—Speeches by the Premier and Opposition Leader

Premier McBride's resolution on better terms was carried by a straight party vote in the provincial legislature Monday. The three Sollalist members withdrew before the vote was taken.

Two speeches of a noteworthy character, indicating in clear-cut, succinct languages the stand assumed by the two representative political parties of British Columbia on the question were delivered during the afternoon session.

When Premier McBride rose to explain the position he took in asking, not only the members upon the government side, but the House as a whole, to endorse the resolution relating to the issue referred to, the public galleries were well filled, and, as his remarks proceeded to an eloquent conclusion, became so crowded that their accommodation was taxed to its utmost capacity. Mr. Macdonald, the leader of the opposition, was listened to with like attention.

Unanimity of Feeling

These different expositions of the attitude of the two dominant political organizations toward the issue, which is acknowledged to be of the utmost importance to British Columbia at the present time must rank with the best opening addresses of any debate which has taken place in the local legislature for many years. While there was some criticism of the course taken by the opposing parties during the recent provincial general election, both by the premier and by the leader of the opposition, these differences of opinion were of small importance as compared with the notable fact that they were united in the opinion that, owing to the peculiar physical conditions prevailing in this province, and because of the excessive cost in the administration of the widely separated centres of population, as well as the proportionally small general population, British Columbia was justly entitled to special monetary treatment in the matter of subsidies from the federal authorities.

Moral and Constitutional Claim

Thus far Mr. Macdonald, speaking as the leader of the Liberal party, was ready to endorse the action taken by the first minister. While he found fault with the manner in which the latter had advocated the case of the province at the recent interprovincial conference; and while he affirmed that the resolution which had been submitted by the Premier for the endorsation of the legislature in some respects did not in accordance with the facts, he acknowledged that the province had a morally and constitutionally sound claim for special consideration. Therefore he took the position that the proposal submitted by the Premier might be supported by the two principal parties without dissension, providing the government would agree to the introduction of amendments which he had compiled.

The Premier's Address

In the address which was delivered by Premier McBride, a verbatim report of which is subjoined, the history of the development of the issue was outlined clearly and concisely. The efforts of the delegation which had gone from this province in 1901 were mentioned. On this occasion, the speaker pointed out, a splendid case had been made out for British Columbia. Emphasis had been laid upon the excessive contributions made annually to the federal treasury as compared with other provinces of confederation. Also at that time it had been explained to those in authority at Ottawa how expensive it was to carry on the administration of a country possessing the peculiar physical characteristics of the West. Ottawa, the Premier said, could not then deny that British Columbia was entitled to fairer terms.

Mr. Walkem's Mission

Further on in the course of his remarks the Premier asserted that this was by no means the first instance of a strong claim being put forth by this province for special consideration. He mentioned the action which had been taken years ago in sending Hon. Mr. Walkem to London for the purpose of making certain representations in behalf of the most westerly section of the Dominion. The result on that occasion had been that Ottawa had been forced to pay more attention to local conditions in estimating what was justly due the province. The speaker then went on to deal with his trip to Ottawa, entering into an exhaustive account of the proceedings which had marked that assembly from the time of its convening until it disbanded. He asserted that fully seven-eighths of that time had been taken up in the discussion of British Columbia's case.

Was "Disappointed"

Premier McBride stated that it had been quite evident to him that there was an inclination on the part of some of the premiers in attendance to adopt the Quebec resolutions in toto. As these concerned the Dominion generally, and by their ratification the province would not have benefited in the slightest degree, he could not accept such a thing, and had so stated with as much emphasis as he could command. Later on he had been disappointed to find that Sir Wilfrid Laurier and other members of the federal administration did not attend the conference except on occasions when the proceedings of the latter were marked by unanimity. As soon as points of dissension arose the federal ministers would retire, if then present, and in this he had been disappointed.

Important Admission

He spoke of his success in obtaining an admission that the province, owing to its permanent physical conditions, was entitled to better terms. His efforts to obtain the appointment of a board of arbitration or a commission of inquiry to investigate the justice of the claims advanced to consideration were mentioned. The protest which had been recorded after those in attendance had emphatically voted the proposition down was spoken of, and then, Premier McBride stated, it became evident that the premiers had decided to close their ears to his representations, and, having explained his reasons for so doing, he had withdrawn from the conference.

A Provincial Issue

In the course of his remarks the Premier drew attention to the storm of criticism which had greeted him upon his return from Ottawa, emanating principally from the Liberal press. He laid special stress upon the point that he had never made better terms a party cry and had always affirmed, and still asserted, that it was a provincial issue, and as such should be considered.

No Legal Claim

Mr. Macdonald's speech was of about the same duration as that of the Prime Minister. He deprecated the treatment of the question of better terms as a party issue, and argued that the federal associations of this province had not introduced that matter into the late election. While he pointed out that the province had no legal claim to special consideration, he was ready to acknowledge that there was a sound moral and constitutional claim to be advanced in support of the contention that the treatment meted out by the federal authorities should be based upon the peculiar conditions with which those resident in this section of the Dominion had to deal.

Effect of Tariff Changes

In his opinion the strongest claim which could be put forth by the province for better terms had been ignored by the Premier when he went to Ottawa for the purpose of taking the matter up before the interprovincial conference. That was that, while the province has been paying something like 70 per cent on all importations at the time of confederation, the rate now amounted to something like 35 per cent. The protection afforded by this high duty might do very well in assisting the manufacturing province, but it could not work in any but a detrimental way in such a province as that of British Columbia. The amount paid by the province today was just double what it would have been in the tariff in force in 1871 were in force today. The speaker reasserted that such was a claim which should have been advanced by British Columbia's advocate, but which had not been touched upon.

"Final and Unalterable"

The remainder of the Liberal leader's remarks related to the interprovincial conference and the action of Premier McBride while attending the proceedings of that body. He said that the premiers should either have elected to present his claims direct to the Dominion government or have declared himself willing to assent to the decision of the conference if agreeing to have the claims of British Columbia adjudicated by the premiers in attendance on that occasion. He agreed with Premier McBride that the words "final and unalterable" in connection with the rearrangement of the contracts with the respective provincial governments were undesirable. And he said, moreover, that he had forwarded representations to Ottawa asking that these words be eliminated. He hoped the government had seen fit to do the same.

Submitted Amendments

In conclusion he stated that he couldn't accept the resolution before the House without some amendments. In the first place, he thought it unfair and not in accord with the true facts that it should be said that Sir Wilfrid Laurier had refused to agree to arbitration. Further, he did not think it correct to say that "in despite of this protest the said conference proceeded to discuss the right of this province to exceptional treatment," claiming that as the Premier had seen fit to outline his arguments in British Columbia's behalf before the said conference, the members were justified in considering the case. He submitted amendments to the effect mentioned.

The Whole Case

The Premier's speech in full follows:

"Mr. Speaker, in rising to move the resolution on the order paper dealing with the question of the attitude assumed by myself as the representative for this province at the Ottawa conference, I feel, sir, that since this question of better terms has taken up so much of the space in the public press, and taken up so much time and attention generally on the hustings, as well as in the halls of this legislature, there is scarcely any necessity to go into the earlier history of the occurrences which have for a very considerable length of time made this question a prominent one in the public affairs of British Columbia. We have had cause on several occasions to go to Ottawa for the purpose of taking up with the federal authorities the question we are here dealing with this afternoon.

"What has happened within the last seven years in connection with this subject? Let us for a moment recall a mission in 1901 undertaken by the then prime minister of British Columbia, and the then attorney general. If an examination is made of the returns of the House submitted when those gentlemen came back to British Columbia, I think I am safe in saying that you will find within those documents most of the substantial evidence upon which the case of the province

(Continued on Page Seven)